

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-5, 7-15, 17, 19-20, and 24-31 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 4-5, 7-15, 17, 19-20, and 24-31 are amended herein. None of the amendments to any of the claims have been made to overcome any prior art. The Applicant hereby requests further examination and reconsideration of the application in view of the foregoing amendments and these remarks.

Claim Objections

In paragraph 2 of the office action, the Examiner objected to claims 1-5, 7-15, 17, 19-20, and 24-31 because of certain informalities. In response, the Applicant has amended many of the claims as suggested by the Examiner. The following suggestions by the Examiner were not adopted by the Applicant.

In order to comply with typical U.S. patent practice, the claims have been amended to delete the recitation of figures labels. As such, the Examiner's suggestions to add certain figure labels have not been adopted.

Regarding claim 1, the Applicant has amended the last line to recite that the intermediate signal is "based on" the first decorrelated signal. The Applicant submits that there is nothing inconsistent between this recitation and the teachings in the specification.

Regarding claim 5, the Applicant has amended claim 5 to be consistent with claim 1 in a manner different from that suggested by the Examiner.

Regarding claims 7 and 8, the Applicant submits that claim 7 is not a duplicate of claim 8. According to claim 7, the real part of the interference reduced signal is determined after step f) is performed (as in the exemplary embodiment of Fig. 3), while claim 8 recites that the real part of the interference reduced signal is determined before step f) (as in the exemplary embodiment of Fig. 6). As such, there is no reason to cancel claim 8.

Regarding claim 9, claim 9 depends from claim 1 and recites that the interference reduced signal is filtered after step f). The Applicant submits that, although the real part of the interference reduced signal is filtered in the disclosed exemplary embodiments, it may be possible, in other embodiments, to filter the interference reduced signal as a complex signal. As such, the Applicant has not amended claim 9 as suggested by the Examiner.

Regarding claim 13, the Examiner suggested that the limitation "as said first and second decorrelation signals" should be inserted after "respectively" for consistency. The Applicant submits that the terms "first decorrelation signal" and "second decorrelation signal" do not exist anywhere in the claims. Instead, claim 13 has been amended to recite that "one of the late and early estimates is the first decorrelated signal" of claim 1.

Regarding claim 14, the Examiner suggested that "a difference signal" should be "said difference signal." Presumably, the Examiner believes that the difference signal recited in claim 14 is the same as the interference reduced signal produced by subtracting the interference contribution from the intermediate signal as recited in claim 1. The Applicant submits that this is not correct. In the exemplary embodiment of Fig. 3, the interference reduced signal of claim 1 is produced at subtraction node 130, while the difference signal of claim 14 is produced at subtraction node 124. As such, the Applicant has not adopted the Examiner's suggestion to amend and/or cancel claim 14.

Regarding claim 26, see claim 1 above.

Regarding claim 27, the Applicant has amended claim 27 to address the antecedence problem in a manner different from that suggested by the Examiner.

Regarding claim 29, see claim 1 above.

Drawings

In paragraph 5, the Examiner objected to the drawings. In response, the Applicant submits herewith a Transmittal of Corrected Drawing(s) amending Fig. 3 as suggested by the Examiner.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the Applicant believes that the now-pending claims are in condition for allowance. Therefore, the Applicant believes that the entire application is now in condition for allowance, and early and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

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